

UNITED STATES DIPLOMACY CENTER



The United States Diplomacy Center (USDC) is dedicated to telling the story of American diplomacy through interactive exhibits and thought-provoking education programs.

The Vision -- Why a U.S. Diplomacy Center?

Today, as throughout our history, diplomacy has played a critical role in securing America's peace, security and prosperity. However, few Americans understand how American diplomacy benefits their lives. Through interactive exhibits and thought-provoking educational programs, the USDC will tell the story of American diplomacy and explain why diplomacy matters. It will shed light on the U.S. Foreign Service and showcase our nation's role in the world.

The Goals of USDC:

- Promote a better understanding of American diplomacy's challenges and achievements;
- Recognize the contributions of U.S. diplomats;
- Inspire interest in our country's foreign relations;
- Stimulate interest in diplomacy-related careers.

USDC's Audience:

- Visitors to Washington, D.C.;
- Students in high schools, colleges and universities who will access the USDC's education programs and "Diplomacy in the Classroom" curricula;
- Visitors to the USDC's Discover Diplomacy website and <http://diplomacy.state.gov>.

The two-level glass USDC Pavilion, currently under construction and scheduled to open in 2016, was designed by architects Beyer Blinder Belle to complement the landmark former "Department of War" building where Secretary of State George C. Marshall had his office. The transparency of the glass design allows visitors to see the original facade and

even Secretary Marshall's former office. Its glass walls, glass roof and metal super structure will set the Pavilion apart from its grand historic limestone parent building. The design allows for a spacious lobby with side ramps leading to the exhibition area. A dual staircase will descend to a concourse-level bookstore, café and multi-purpose space for functions and gatherings. The Pavilion will be an inspiring addition to one of Washington, DC's landmark buildings.

Hall I – Discover Diplomacy will ask visitors to explore how American diplomacy matters to them today. Vivid, multi-media exhibits and artifacts will capture policy issues and help visitors step into diplomats' shoes to learn more about U.S. diplomacy around the world. Visitors will explore how American diplomats carry out U.S. foreign policy and meet the challenges of modern diplomacy.

Hall II – Diplomacy in Action: Exploring American Diplomatic History and Embassies will guide visitors through our nation's diplomatic history, illustrating how it has shaped our lives today. Through an "embassy wall," visitors will learn how U.S. embassy country teams carry out diplomatic tasks and reflect on how American diplomacy supports U.S. interests.

Hall III – Advancing Diplomacy will draw visitors into educational activities including "*The Power of Peace*," a video teaching about negotiations; a diplomatic simulation classroom; study spaces for in-depth exploration of current issues like climate and health, and other exhibits highlighting the relevance of diplomacy in visitors' lives.